

SYNOPSIS.

"Vanishing Fleets," a story of "what might have happened," opens in Washington with the United States and Japan near war. Guy Hiller, secretary of the British embassy, and Miss Norma Roberts, chief aide of Inventor Roberts, are introduced as lovers. Japan declares war and takes the Philippines. Guy Hiller starts for England. Norma Roberts leaves Washington for the Florida coast. Hawaii is captured by the Japs. All ports are closed. Tokyo learns of missing Japanese fleet and whole world becomes convinced that United States has powerful war agency. England decides to send a fleet to American waters as a Canadian protection against what the British suppose is a terrible submarine flotilla. Hiller is sent with a message. Fleet mysteriously disappears. The kaiser is missing. King Edward of England is confronted by Admiral Bevins of the United States. The Dreadnaught, biggest of England's warships, is discovered at an impassable point in the Thames. The story now goes back to a time many months before the war breaks out, and Inventor Roberts visits the president and cabinet, telling of and exhibiting a metal production. This overcomes friction when electrified and is to be applied to vessels. Roberts evolves a great flying machine. The cabinet plans a radioplane war against Japanese. The start is made for the scene of conflict. The Japanese fleet, believing Nippon supreme, suddenly discerns the radioplane fleet. After maneuvering the airships descend, and by use of strong magness lift the warships, one by one, from the sea. The vessels are deposited in a mountain lake in the United States to awaii peace. The British fleet accepts American hospitality and is conveyed to the United States by the wingless terrors. wingless terrors.

CHAPTER XX .- Continued.

"Admiral, do you think there is any gunnery that can hurt us, anything that can overtake us, or that if we wish to we may not master the world?" he asked in a voice of extreme quiet.

Fields shrugged his shoulders hopelessly, made a grimace, and looked at his fellows. "Gentlemen," he said in a dry tone, "it seems to me that we should without any delay accept the hospitality which the United States has extended so courteously."

The others appreciated the grim humor of the situation, and in like vein acquiesced. The surprise which they had undergone was nothing compared to that with which, as the day waned, they witnessed the lifting of their craft from the waters. With the utmost care the task was accomplished, and everything made ready for the westward journey. Only one mishap occurred beyond the necessary damage to the ships, and that was not discovered until the following day. A sailor of the Dreadnought, maddened by the spectacle he had witnessed, had un'ashed a life raft unobserved and thrown himself and it into the water by the use of its tackle at some hour of darkness when the vessels were traveling at slow speed and close to the surface of the waves. Beins grieved more over this incident than any other; for he had set his heart upon a bloodless victory,

Thus it was that on the following day there rested in the Chesapeake a fleet whose fires were banked, whose men were prohibited from shore leave and whose chief officers were guests in the principal hotels of New York and Washington under pledge of secrecy. But in this they might take heart; although some slight damage had been inflicted on the vessels, in no instance did the flag come down, and from each staff floated the union jack unsulfied. Communication between ships and shores was interdicted; so even the inhabitants of the borders could do no more than look and guess as to how the fleet had sailed in without attracting attention or meeting with rebuff.

Another report came from China that the fleet of the dragon was still under waiting orders; hence there was nothing for the administration to do but mark time, which it did with poor grace. Within a few days, however, a more disturbing report came from Europe by way of Canada, the usual source of communication. It was to the effect that the kaiser, learning of the disappearance of the British fleet, and believing it destroyed, was showing quick signs of aggression. Vainly the administration hoped that his belligerent intentions might be overestimated; but the passage of days the general plan.

It was hourly expected that the pres ence of the radioplanes would be required in the west to meet the Chinese. In view of this necessity, it was decided to dispatch Brockton and Jenkins to Berlin on a mission of diplomacy. They were ordered to visit the place where they could escape observation, induce the emperor and his plane, and then, after it had been demonstrated that Germany would be powerless in the event of war, to deliver messages announcing that the United States purposed to gain what the element of time for his return support she could for a world's peace voluntarily, but would compel it if need be.

Jenkins was familiar with the German capital, having been paval attache there for a number of years. It American ambassador was unaware of his country's defense until informed the idea. on the night of the arrival, and was speedily enlisted in the enterprise. Through him the kaiser granted the has been established between your interview, which led to his visiting the radioplane which had been brought to rest beyond the outskirts of the ton assented. city.

Brockton's task proved a most difficult one; for the emperor, a man of science and interested in all engines of warfare, insisted on being conveyed not only to the plant on the key, but Chezapeake bay, where he might look down upon the British The night was ideal for the purpose, Nature seeming to lend herself in behalf of peace. The Norma, now fully fitted and comfortable, was utilized for the mission. Like all others of the American fleet, she car ried provisions sufficient to enable her to pass many times round the

world in case of emergency. The kaiser marveled at the display of ingenuity, and was told all but the secret, without which no one could cast the radioactive metal. He was even permitted to handle the steering levers and direct her flight for a time, and entered into this with the enthusiasm of a boy. He would have driven her through the air at a speed which would have heated her interior had he not been cautioned, and relinquished his place in the hood only when the shores of the western continent were reached and loomed darkly far below.

It had not been Brockton's intention to show him over the plant on the key; but the sovereign insisted that

fas as the eye could reach to the east | length of our stay." and the west the watch was being maintained unceasingly. The kalser kalser turned on his heel and strode recovered his good humor, laughed, out into the open air again. What a again asked to manipulate the machine.

Jenkins was not pleased by the recklessness with which his august had risen, and in its light he marched guest experimented with the levers up and down a stretch of turf with and switches; but feared to remonstrate, though attering an occasional word of caution. Suddenly, as if confused, the kaiser opened three switches at once. The machine gave night and the wilderness, and as time a mighty lurch, and failed to obey the expert hand that was instantly reached | ing them. forward to control it. The needle showing the direction took a swift leap and pointed to the northwest.

The kaiser stepped back from the hood, while Jenkins vainly strove to threw strange ribbons of light upward. bring the Norma back into her eastward course. Rapidly be pulled the switches to and fro; but no answering cast by lofty spruce, fir and hemlock spark showed that they were in contact. In alarm he checked the speed of the radioplane, and called to Brockton, who, frightened by the erratic movements of the craft, had entered the hood.

"I have to report, sir," Jenkins said, that the steering currents of the radioplane are out of order, and that we can no longer direct her course. She is now heading nor'-nor'west."

Brockton's brows came together in a scowl. Nothing but the presence of his majesty prevented an explosion. 'What do you suggest?" he asked, sharply.

"That we come to land and make an examination and whatever repairs are necessary, sir."

"Very well. Do so at once!" Within a few minutes the Norma

win

Burst from the Emperor's Lips

he permitted to alight, it being his | had found a lower level and her first visit to America, which he had always longed to make, but had never anticipated. He was permitted to traverse the great machine shops and view the working of the blast furnace, and also to gaze at the formidable fleet of monsters that rested idly along the beach. Muffled in his great coat to avoid recognition, he was strictly incognito, and met neither the inventor, "the assistant," nor Bevins, who sire for a sight of the open, asked and proved that he might be a menace to many hours before had retired to their

His mood of curiosity had given way to one of thoughtfulness when the Norma again took him aboard and started northward. He sat silently in the central chamber of the radioplane, taking no part in the conversation between the chancellor and Brockton, kaiser at night, landing at a time and until the machine hovered over the waters of the Chesapeake, on the bosom of which, at anchor, rested the chancellor to get aboard the radio- British fleet, and then discussed the possibilities of crossing the continent to Lake Washington.

Brockton was compelled to enter a protest, explaining that inasmuch as must enter into their calculations, they had only a small margin. The kaiser remembered that he was in a machine which annihilated space; but that in traveling from the west to the east the difference in the rising hour was he who evolved the details. The of the sun meant much in maintaining secrecy; so he reluctantly relinquished

"But it will not trouble you, will it to carry me across the cordon which country and Canada on the homeward flight?" he asked, and to this Brock-

They turned to the north, and at a!

searchlights were bringing into view the ground beneath. They were traveling slowly over the primeval forest in far upper Canada. A spot came to view where there were no trees, and into this, like a crippled bird, the Norma came to a stop and rested.

The emperor watched the first attempts to define the difficulty with auxiety, and then, yielding to his deobtained the unclosing of the port, through which he sauntered into the night. Without observing what was around him, he stood leaning against the shell of the radioplane, thinking with annoyance of the difficulties of state which might accrue if his absence extended over a day. He was aroused by the sounds of hammering and rending within, and re-entered the craft, which was now flooded with a blinding glare of radiance brought into life by the ceaselessly turning dyn-

On their knees, with uniforms cast aside, and recklessly tearing away the kindergarten teacher had said she will carefully wrought woodwork of the grow up to be a very nice looking paneled side, were the admiral and the young lady if she is a good girl, but engineer, while back of them the dis- will grow up to be a very ugly womtracted chancellor of the empire held an if she is a naughty girl. "Is that a short crowbar in his hands and

been bared to the elbow. "I am sorry, your majesty," apolo- a while pondering seriously. posed a weakness. A cross current, a little girl?" burned insulation and a bad connec tion have fused our wires somewhere and we may be delayed for a short

"How long?"

high altitude saw far below them the lay, there need be no apprehension, constant glow of searchlights dotting because we have abundant food. We out in streamers of white the bound shall have to uncover the damaged ary line between the two countries. As section before we can estimate the

Fairly gritting his teeth in rage, the and then, having nothing more to view fool he had been to intrust himself to below, returned to the hood, where he a strange mechanism which at best was treacherous! A day's delay would not mean much; but what if they were detained for many? The waning moon military precision, until his anger began to disappear and his natural philosophy to afford relaxation. He became conscious of the beauties of the went on was engrossed in contemplat-Only the moon and he seemed in

> possession of this cleft in the forest. this grass-carpeted glade in the center of whose breadth a hurrying brook Bordering this asylum of the wilderness were the illimitable shadows trees, which thrust their slender plumes like curious observers high above the denser growths of scrubby birch and jack pine. Here and there were splotches of light where the moon found ragged openings, making of the woods a royal robe spotted without regularity. It was a world of enchantment, mysterious in its stillness, mystic in its beauty and alluring in its stateliness. Cares of state were forgotten, and he was yielding to its spell when a voice at his elbow speaking in his native tongue interrupted his meditations.

"Your majesty," the chancellor said, "they have found the break, and say that with the tools at command it will require several days perhaps to repair it. Admiral Bevins expresses his regrets and-"

"Gott im himmel!" burst from the emperor's lips, and with a gesture of hopelessness he waved his subject away and began an agitated march backward and forward, while the chancellor returned to render what assistance he could.

CHAPTER XXI. His Majesty's Visit.

In the heart of the woods, untrodden before by man, the sound of the hammer awoke the German emperor after his hours of anxious study. By choice he had declined to sleep in the radioplane, and rolled himself in his blankets on an open spot of turf. The cares of the day were upon him again with all their perplexities. The sun had not risen, and the cool breath of the morning came to his lungs with invigorating freshness, while a bird of the far north was beginning a thin piping to its mate, and a camp robber, brilliantly impertinent, hopped round his woodland couch and gazed unabashed at royalty.

He threw aside the blankets which had been tightly rolled round him, walked to the brook, whose song had lulled him in his dreams of the night. and bathed his hands and face in the A great trout, by the intrusion, sped swiftly away from a rock and disappeared in a dark pool with a final sweep of its tail. The emperor dried his face on his handkerchief and walked slowly across the glade to the Norma, which he entered curiously.

There they all were as on the night before, tired, work-worn and anxious, the chancellor still with his sleeves rolled up, the rear admiral stripped to his undershirt and the engineer peering through his glasses at the tangles of wire. On the night before the kaiser had stormed and threatened, had mumbled angry soliloquies, and sworn mighty oaths to the unheeding woods. Now at the sight of these faces before him he understood to the full that these, his hosts, must have labored throughout the night trying to undo the accident which perhaps his own hands had wrought. It softened his mood.

They saluted him, and Brockton rose stiffly to his feet, wiped his hands on his trousers, and repaired to the rear of the radioplane, from which he apologetically returned with breakfast for his guest. The emperor ate with an appetite which was made keen by the balsamy night air in which he had slept, and then began wishing that he, too, might take part in this manual toil. Almost involuntarily he assisted the fat old chancellor, who was prying loose another board with a crowbar; but he felt that he was in the w.s., and after lounging round the craft for a time decided that he would have another look at the brook. It was swarming with trout, and, half ashamed of his zest, he returned to the Norma, and, like a boy preparing to play truant, furtively secured a line, and attached it to a fly which he had in his pocket book.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Juvenile Logic. Marie is a very bright kindergarten pupil. She same home to her parents the other day and told them that the true, mamma?" asked Marle, and she displayed muscular arms which had was informed that if the teacher said so it was true. Marie sat still for gized the admiral, looking up from mamma," she suddenly burst forth his work, "but I am afraid that a again, "why was the kindergarten confused handling of the levers has ex- teacher so naughty when she was a

Both Biased.

As a rule neither the people who think the worst of you nor the people who think the best of you are abso "I cannot say. Aside from the de- lutely correct.

MEDAL FOR CLIMBER PE-RU-NA

TO COMMEMORATE MISS PECK'S ASCENT OF PERUVIAN MOUNT.

Scaled Huascaran, Estimated to Be 24,000 Feet High-Believes She Holds World's Record-Silver Slipper Another Gift,

New York .- Miss Annie S. Peck, who believes that she has attained the greatest height in the world by mountain climbing, has received a gold medal from President Leguia of Peru for her most notable and most recent effort, the ascent of Mount Huascaran, estimated to be 24,000 feet high. It was in this climb that Miss Peck had a hand frozen because she lost a glove, and for a time the lives of those in the party were endangered. Rudolph, one of the guides brought from Switzerland, had been keeping the heavy outer gloves for Miss Peck and he not only let one of them fall but lost one of his own. His feet and one of his hands were so badly frozen that they had finally to be amputated.

Eduardo Higginson, the Peruvian consul general in this city, presented the medal to Miss Peck. It is in the shape of a shield and is about two inches long and 11/2 inches wide. On the obverse is the inscription in Span-

The Government of Peru to Annie S Peck. No one before her arrived at the summit of Huascaran. 2 of Sept., 1908. The reverse bears a picture of Mount Huascaran and the inscription;

Mount Huascaran-24,000 feet. Republic Miss Peck has also received a pres ent of a silver slipper stirrup from the

Lima Geographical society. Eulogio Delgado, president of the organization,



Miss Peck In Mountain Climbing Costume and Medal Presented to Her.

said that she was the only woman who had addressed the body in its

native tongue, Spanish. Miss Peck has had her eye on Mount Huascaran since 1904, and a little later tried to scale its sides with native

guides. It was not a success. Four years later, accompanied by two guides Miss Peck left New York for the Huailas valley. After arriving in South America there was a 90 mile horseback ride into the interior. A start up the mountain was made on

August 6. Snow had to be melted to make soup and tea. The trip was not successful, and after 12 days the party returned. Natives in the village at the foot of the mountain thought that the party had perished. Arrangements were made to send out a searching party. The appearance of the American and her guides caused more excitement.

The next trip was started on August 28. There were many vicissitudes. More native porters made progress of

the party speedler. Miss Peck reached the summit on September 2, and the next night, while she was descending with her guides, all lashed together with a stout line. the leading guide slipped and fell into a crevasse, carrying her to the very edge. There were numerous slides and narrow escapes, but each time the guide behind braced himself with his alpenstock and saved her and his fellow countryman.

Miss Peck was born in Providence. R. I., and after finishing in the State Normal school there got a degree in the University of Michigan in 1878. For a time she taught mathematics in Bartholomew's School for Girls in Cincinnati and was professor of Latin in Purdue university and Smith college.

She climbed the Matterhorn in 1893 and Popocatepetl and Orizaba two years later. Miss Peck was the first woman to ascend the latter. Then she tackled Funffingerspitze in the Tyrol in 1900. There was the climb up Mount Sorata in Bolivia, some 20,000 feet, in 1904.

Miss Peck was the official delegate of the United States to the International Congress of Alpinism in Paris in 1900. She is a member of the National Geographical society and for years has been a writer upon the subjects of travel and mountain climbing.

When a woman looks serious and indication that she has found out

"I was troubled with cramps in the stomach for six years. I tried many kinds of medicine, also was treated

by three doctors. "They said that I had nervous dyspepsia. I took the medicine for two years, then I got sick again and gave

up all hopes of getting cured. "I saw a testimonial of a man whose case was similar to mine, being cured by Peruna, so thought I would give it a trial. I procured a bottle at once, and commenced taking it.

" have taken nineteen bottles, and am entirely cured. I believe Peruna is all that is claimed for it."-Mrs. J. C. Jamison, 61 Marchant St., Watsonville, Cal.

HAD A RIGHT MERRY TIME.

Presents and Souvenirs Distributed ch Casey's Birthday.

"Yis," began Mrs. O'Toole, "ye see, it was Casey's birthday yisterday, an' Casey brought home two bottles of rale stuff—one inside an' one outside -to sillybrate the occasion, an' they fist had the toime of their lives last avenin'. Iv'rybody happy an' iv'rybody handin' out prisents an' seuvenirs of the evint to iv'rybody else!

"Casey gave his wife an' his mothern-law a black eye apiece; his wife give Casey a punch in the bread basket; his mother-in-law give him a side swipe with a skillet; an' Casey give the old lady another black eye to keep company with the first one; an' the police come an' give Casey a ride to the station house; an' this mornin' the judge took a hand in the game, an' give Casey ten days!

"Oh, 'twas a gran' sillybration they had all 'round, wid remimbrances an' souvenirs handed out regardless of ixpense or who they happened to hit!"

CHILD ATE CUTICURA OINTMENT.

Spread Whole Box of It on Crackers -Not the Least Injury Resulted.

Cuticura Thus Proven Pure and Sweet.

A New York friend of Cuticura writes:

"My three year old son and heir, after being put to bed on a trip across the Atlantic, investigated the stateroom and located a box of graham crackers and a box of Cuticura Ointment. When a search was made for the box, it was found empty and the kid admitted that he had eaten the contents of the entire box spread on the crackers. It cured him of a bad cold and I don't know what else."

No more conclusive evidence could be offered that every ingredient of Cuticura Ointment is absolutely pure, sweet and harmless. If it may be safely eaten by a young child, none but the most beneficial results can be expected to attend its application to pected to attend its application to even the tenderest skin or youngest infant. Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston

ALL THE DIFFERENCE.



He-Before Jones got married he used to command a large salary. She-And now?

He-Now he only earns it. His wife cemmands it!

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

y local applications, as they cannot reach the dis-ased portion of the ear. There is only one way to eased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies, Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous heing of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbing sound or im-perfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed. Deaf-ress is the result and unless the inflammation can perfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Dearperset hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Dearness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be
taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases
out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is rothing
but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of
Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured
by Hail's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Gold by Druggists, Tic.

Sold by Dringists, The.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Hope Springs Eternal.

He was addressing a crowd one Sutday morning on the quay at Newcastle. "I can safely say that no man ever attempted to bribe me, gentlemen,"

said the speaker. "Don't be down-hearted, old chap, your luck may change," shouted a man in the crowd.-Tit-Bits.

No Wender She's Cross.

The woman who has a thousand petty ares and annoyances while she suffers with headache or side ache must not be blamed if she cannot always be angelical ly amiable. What she needs is thoughtful ness from her family and such a simple and natural remedy as Lane's Family Medicine, the herb tea that makes weak wom-en strong and well. Sold by druggists and dealers, 25c.

Questionable.

"Has she a sense of humor?"

"I can't tell." 'Why not?" "Because she looked serious when

she told me she admired your sing Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA a safe and sure remedy for

infants and children, and see that it Bears the Signature of Chart Hillthin In Use For Over 30 Years.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Honor is but the reflection of man's own actions shining bright in

the face of all about him, and from stops asking, "What is love?" it is an thence rebounding upon himself,-Marriam.